

lic instruction which have been tested by other States and found useful, towards shaping and vitalizing the great cause of education among us. Thus, from many sources, we derived the materials which our people, in forming a State, collected and combined into a harmonious and effective whole. In this they conformed to the rude but beautiful idea, which the early Indian tribes conceived of the work accomplished by our principal river, from which the State is named; for as they dwelt on the thousand brooks and rivulets which in the Northern half of the State converge toward our central valley, they called the river flowing through it, and receiving its supplies from these small streams, *Wisconsin*, which, in the language of Chippewas, means the "gathering of waters."